

Meeting Minutes for July 10, 2023

6:30 P.M.

Ishpeming City Hall, Room 211.1

- A. Call to Order-** for the Ishpeming Planning Commission was by Chairperson Brooke Routhier at 6:33 P.M.
- B. Roll Call-**
Present: Torrey Dupras, Ben Argall, Brooke Routhier, Kari Getschow, Michael Elliott, David Lawler and Lindsay Bean.
Absent: Bruce Houghton and Mike Kinnunen.
Public Present: Al Pierce, Zoning Administrator and Jodi Champion, Recording Secretary.
- C. Public Comment:** None
- D. Approval of Agenda-** Brooke Routhier would like to add some more proposed topics under 4B in New Business. In addition to Farmer's Market and Definition of Blight, she would like to add discussion of a winter venue and the planting of more trees in the downtown area. A motion was made by David Lawler to approve the agenda, with the additional topics added, supported by Lindsay Bean, and carried unanimously.
- E. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes-** from 05/01/2023.
With the correction of moving David Lawler from present to absent for the May 01, 2023 meeting, Lindsay Bean made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 01, 2023 meeting, supported by Torrey Dupras, and carried unanimously.
-Minutes of 3/7, 4/4, 5/2, 6/13, 8/01, 9/12, 10/04, 11/14, 12/05, and 12/21/2022 are not typed yet.
- F. Presentation-**Brice Strumer of 105 E. Main Street, gave a presentation on the potential opportunities within the Cannabis industry. Brice's business Melo, has been well attended. Brice talked about the other opportunities, besides dispensing Cannabis, that are potential sources of jobs and income. Other business options included microbusinesses, growers, designated processing facilities, testing stations and secure transporting businesses. Also, Brice would like to see municipalities offer temporary event licenses. An example of use would be for a Cannabis Farmer's Market. Brice also discussed having curbside pickup for his Melo customers. The two spaces in front of his store are being considered, as is the back entrance in the alley. Brooke Routhier injected that as a Planning Commission, we don't regulate curbside pickup. She recommended that Al should connect with the City Manager on this topic. Lindsay Bean made a motion that someone from City Staff should respond to Brice, supported by Michael Elliott, and passed unanimously. Lindsay Bean made a motion that the Committee should further investigate licenses pertaining to safety compliance and secure transport, supported by Ben Argall, and passed unanimously.
- G. Public Hearings—None**

H. New Business-

1. Discuss Sign Ordinance and Lighting- The development of a Sign/Lighting Ordinance was discussed. Some key points that should be looked at would be lighting brightness and to have new businesses include lighting requirements in the site plan. Lindsay Bean made a motion for AI to start working on a lighting/sign ordinance, supported by Kari Getschow, and passed unanimously.
 2. Discuss Site Plan Review and Possible Revisions-Brooke Routhier discussed the approval mechanism for site plans. She proposed that at AI's discretion or the applicant's choice to have the plan presented to the Planning Commission or to City Staff. She proposed that AI give some thought to the revision of the site plan review process. Should larger, commercial plans be brought to the Commission for review? AI stated that that would slow down the process for everyone involved.
 3. Short Term Rental Ordinance—There is a draft in process. Commissioners would like to get some statistics from Russ Kilgren, Rental Inspector/Code Enforcer, to include how many tickets he puts out, how many abandoned vehicle tickets are issued, also to include a report on blight.
 4. A. DDA/Planning Commission Joint Meeting - Cathy Smith is still working on an agreeable date for the meeting.
B. Proposed Topics of Discussion - Farmer's Market, Definition of Blight, Winter Venues, Planting of more trees in the downtown area, Downtown Development, Social District, and Place Making Events.
 5. Canda Manor Area—developable? – AI Pierce noted that CCI owns two of the parcels and that CCI is difficult to work with.
- I. **Old Business**-Bessemer/Fifth St. Right -of-Way, Lot 617 C.I.M.Co.'s Third Addition The City Attorney recommends no action.
- J. **Correspondence**- Gino Gerding has been summoned to appear in court by Marquette County, in regards to the non-compliance of installing a sprinkler system on the first floor of his property located at 116 E. Division St.
- K. **Meeting Adjournment**- David Lawler made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 P.M., supported by Lindsay Bean, and carried unanimously.

Prepared by: _____
Jodi Champion, Deputy Clerk/Recording Secretary



Alan K. Pierce, Planning Commission Assistant Secretary

Reviewed by: _____
Bruce Houghton, Planning Commission Secretary